

The CZAR'S SPY

The Mystery of a Silent Love

By Chevalier WILLIAM LE QUEUX

AUTHOR OF "THE CLOSED BOOK," ETC.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY C. D. RHODES

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"No. Bitter ones—very bitter ones," he said in a hard tone, striding across the deck and back again, and I saw in his eyes a strange look, half of anger, half of deep regret.

Was he telling the truth, I wondered? Some tragic romance or other concerning a woman had, I knew, overshadowed his life in the years before we had become acquainted. But the real facts he had never revealed to me. Obviously he was as merry as the other fellows who officered that huge floating fortress; on board he was a typical smart marine, and on shore he danced and played tennis and flirted just as vigorously as did the others. But a heavy heart beat beneath his uniform.

When he returned to where I stood I saw that his face had changed; it had become drawn and haggard. He wore the appearance of a man who had been struck a blow that had staggered him, crushing out all life and hope.

"What's the matter, Jack?" I asked. "Come! Tell me—what ails you?" "Nothing, my dear old chap," he answered hoarsely. "Really nothing—only a touch of the blues just for a moment." "I'll pass," he added, trying hard to smile. "I'll pass."

"What I've just told you about that yacht has upset you. You can't deny it."

He started. His mouth was, I saw, hard set. He knew something concerning that mysterious craft, but would not tell me.

"Why are you silent?" I asked slowly, my eyes fixed upon my friend the officer. "I have told you what I know, and I want to discover the motive of the visit of those men, and the reason they opened Hatcheson's safe."

"I admit that I have certain grave suspicions," he said at last, standing aside with his hands behind his back, his sword trailing on the white deck. "You say that the yacht was called the Lola—painted gray with a black funnel."

"No, dead white, with a yellow funnel."

"Ah! Of course," he remarked, as though to himself. "They would repeat and alter her appearance, but the dining saloon. Was there a long carved oak buffet with a big, heavy cornice with three gilt dolphins in the center—and were there not dolphins in gilt on the backs of the chairs—an unusual device?"

"Yes," I cried. "You are right. I remember them! You've surely been on board her!"

"The captain, who gave his name to you as Mackintosh, is an underized American of a rather low-down type."

"I look him for a Scotsman."

"Because he put on a Scotch accent," he laughed. "He's a man who can speak a dozen languages brokenly, and pass for an Italian, a German, a Frenchman, as he wishes."

"And the man who gave his name as Philip Hornby?"

Burnford's mouth closed with a snap. He drew a long breath, his eyes grew fierce, and he bit his lip.

"Ah! I see he is not exactly your friend," I said meaningly.

"You are right, Gordon—he is not my friend," was his slow, meaning response.

"Then why not be outspoken and tell me all you know concerning him?"

"What!" He gasped suddenly turning pale, "the Lola?"

Frank Hatcheson is anxious to clear up the mystery.

"Well, to tell you the truth, I'm mystified myself. I can't yet discern their motive."

"But at any rate you know the men," I argued. "You can at least tell us who they really are."

He shook his head, still disinclined.

for some hidden reason, to reveal the truth to me.

"You saw no woman on board?" he asked suddenly, looking straight into my eyes.

"No. Hornby told me that he and Chater were alone."

"And yet an hour after you left a man and a woman came ashore and disappeared? Ah! If we only had a description of that woman it would reveal much to us."

"She was young and dark-haired, so the detective says. She had a curious fixed look in her eyes, which attracted him, but she wore a thick motor veil, so that he could not clearly discern her features."

"And her companion?"

"Middle-aged, prematurely gray, with a small, dark mustache."

Jack Durford sighed and stroked his chin.

"Ah! Just as I thought," he exclaimed. "And they were actually here, in this port, a week ago! What a bitter irony of fate!"

"I don't understand you," I said. "You are so mysterious, and yet you will tell me nothing!"

"The police, fools that they are, have allowed them to escape, and they will never be caught now. Ah! you don't know them as I do! They are the cleverest pair in all Europe. And they have the audacity to call their craft the Lola—the Lola, of all names! Gordon, let me be frank and open with you, my dear old fellow. I would tell you everything—everything—if I dared. But I cannot—you understand! And his final words seemed to choke him."

I stood before him, open-mouthed in astonishment.

"You really mean—well, that you are in fear of them—eh?" I whispered.

He nodded slowly in the affirmative, adding: "To tell you the truth would be to bring upon myself a swift, relentless vengeance that would overwhelm and crush me. Ah! my dear fellow, you do not know—you cannot dream—what brought those desperate men into this port. I can guess—I can guess only too well—but I can only tell you that if you ever do discover the terrible truth—which I fear is unlikely—you will solve one of the strangest and most remarkable mysteries of modern times."

"What does the mystery concern?" I asked, in breathless eagerness.

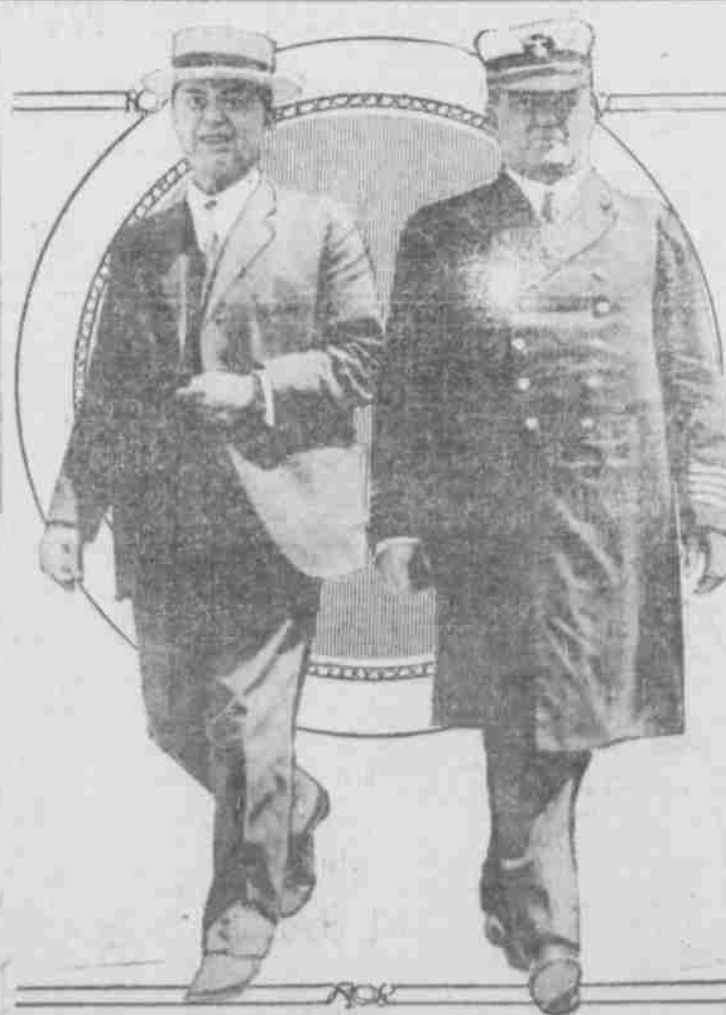
"It concerns a woman."

CHAPTER III.

The House "Over the Water."

I had idled away a pleasant month up in Boston, and from there had gone north to the Lakes, and it was one hot evening in mid-August that I found myself again in London, crossing St. James' square from the Sports Club. I had just turned into Pall Mall when

HONOR SYSTEM JOKE AT NAVAL ACADEMY. IS CHARGE: INVESTIGATION IS NOW ON



Robert Moss, father of accused midshipman (left), and Capt. Robert L. Russell, president of board of inquiry.

Seven midshipmen at the Annapolis Naval Academy who are in trouble because they "cribbed" at a recent examination are borne out by the presidents of the classes in the statement that the honor system has failed at Annapolis and that a large majority of the students use unauthorized means in passing examinations. Midshipman James E. Moss is one of the accused "middies." A board of inquiry, with Capt. Robert L. Russell at its head, has made an investigation and recommended the dismissal of Moss and four others.

a voice at my elbow suddenly exclaimed in Italian:

"Ah, signore!—why, actually, my padrone!"

And looking around I saw a thin-faced man of about thirty, dressed in neat but rather shabby black, whom I instantly recognized as a man who had been my servant in Leghorn for two years, after which he had left to better himself.

"Why, Olinto!" I exclaimed, surprised, as I halted. "You—in London—eh? Well, and how are you getting on?"

"Most excellently, signore," he answered in broken English, smiling. "But it is so pleasant for me to see my generous padrone again. What fortune it is that I should pass here at this very moment!"

"Where are you working?" I inquired.

"At the restaurant Milona, in Oxford street—only a small place but we gain discreetly, so I must not complain. I live over in Lambeth, and am on my way home."

When we halted before the National gallery prior to parting I made some inquiries regarding Arnalda, the black-eyed, good-looking housemaid whom he had married.

STATE OF ARIZONA

Office of the

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

United States of America,) ss.
State of Arizona,) ss.

The ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION does hereby certify that the annexed is a true and complete transcript of the

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF "AMERICA AND MEXICO MINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY," which were filed in the office of said Arizona Corporation Commission on the 3rd day of June, A. D. 1915 at 10:00 o'clock a. m., as provided by law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The Arizona Corporation Commission, by its Chairman, has hereunto set its hand and affixed its Official Seal. Done at the city of Phoenix, the Capital, this 3rd day of June A. D. 1915.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

F. L. RANTA,

Acting Secretary.

F. A. JONES, Chairman.
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICA AND MEXICO MINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, the undersigned, have this day associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of Arizona, do hereby adopt, sign and acknowledge the following as the Articles of such Corporation.

Article I.
The names, residence and postoffice addresses of the Corporators are as follows:

George Kasun, of Lowell, Arizona.
Benjamin Bound, of Lowell, Arizona.
Walter F. Rite, of Lowell, Arizona.
Rollie R. Heindselman, Lowell, Arizona.
David Carver, Lowell, Arizona.

Article II.
The name of the Corporation shall

be "America and Mexico Mining and Development Company."

Article III.

The location of the principal office and place of business shall be in Bisbee, Cochise County, State of Arizona, with branch office and places of business at such other places as the Board of Directors, hereinafter provided for, may from time to time determine and establish.

Article IV.

The general nature of the business proposed to be transacted and carried on, is as follows:

To acquire by location, purchase, lease, license, concession, devise, grant or other lawful means, all kinds of mining lands and property, patented and unpatented, mines, mineral rights, lands, tunnels, tunnel sites, buildings, basements, rights and privileges, machinery plants and other effects whatsoever, proper and necessary to the conduct of the business of the corporation; selling mortgages, leasing, devising, and dealing in any and all kinds and descriptions of mining property owned by the corporation; to prospect and search for ores and minerals; to mine, refine, smelt and manufacture any and all kinds of ores, minerals and metals; to buy, sell, manufacture and deal in mineral plants, machinery, tools, implements, conveniences, supplies, provisions, and things necessary, convenient or capable of use in connection with the work and operation of this company or required by its employees; to acquire, construct, operate, manage, work, railroads, tramways, turnpikes, roads, bridges, water courses, canals from its place of business to and from navigable streams or water or existing railroads, and to contribute, subsidize and partake in any such operation, to subscribe for, buy or otherwise acquire, to sell or otherwise dispose of, hold and own, the capital stock and securities of this or any other corporation, company, or individual, to vote or cause to be voted such stock at any meeting of the stock holders of such corporation, and take such other action in relation thereto as a natural person might or could do; in general to transact and carry on all kinds of business necessary and incident to the objects of this corporation and to the same extent as a natural person might or could do in these respects under the powers conferred upon said corporation by the laws of the State of Arizona.

Article V.
The Capital Stock of the Corporation shall be Two Hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000.00) Dollars, divided into Two Hundred and fifty thousand shares of the par value of One (\$1.00) Dollar each, which when issued shall be fully paid and non-assessable; said stock shall be issued upon such terms and conditions and at such times as the Board of Directors may determine and prescribe, and the same may be issued in exchange for property, contracts, services or other valuable things or benefit accruing to the corporation, as the Board of Directors may determine.

Article VI.
The time of the commencement of this corporation shall be as soon as these articles are filed, recorded and certificate of incorporation issued to it by the Corporation Commission of Arizona. The duration of the corporation shall be for a term of twenty-five (25) years, with the privilege of renewal from time to time.

Article VII.
The affairs of this corporation shall be conducted by the Board of Directors, consisting of not less than three nor more than five persons, who shall be elected at their annual meeting on the first Monday in May in each year. And the officers of said Corporation shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be directors of said corporation, and until their successors are elected, the following shall constitute the first Board of Directors, and shall act as officers of said Corporation.

George Kasun, President.
Benjamin Bound, Vice-President.
Rollie R. Heindselman, Secretary and Treasurer.
Walter F. Rite, Director.
David Carver, Director.

Article VIII.
The highest amount of indebtedness or liabilities, direct or contingent, to which the corporation, shall, at any time subject itself, be One Hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars.

Article IX.
The private property of the stock holders, or any of them, of this corporation, shall be exempt from corporate debts of every kind and description.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 1st day of June, A. D. 1915.

George Kasun,
Benjamin Bound,
Walter F. Rite,
Rollie R. Heindselman,
David Carver.

STATE OF ARIZONA,) ss.
County of Cochise,) ss.

This instrument was acknowledged before the undersigned, this 1st day of June, 1915, by George Kasun, Benjamin Bound, Walter F. Rite, Rollie R. Heindselman and David Carver.

(Seal) J. D. TAYLOR, Notary Public.
My commission expires, February 20th, 1916.

Filed in the office of the Arizona Corporation Commission this 3rd day of June, A. D. 1915 at 10:00 A. M., at request of J. D. Taylor, whose post office address is Bisbee, Arizona.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION,
By F. A. JONES, Chairman.

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